

Educating for Sustainable Communities

Are we doing it right?

Africa Regional Higher Education Summit
October 22 2008









WCF Mission

"To promote a sustainable cocoa economy through economic and social development and environmental conservation in cocoa growing communities"





WCF Commitment

- → Ensure a sustainable supply of quality cocoa that benefits both growers and users of this unique tropical crop.
- → Empower farmers to make choices that help develop strong, prosperous communities in all of the world's cocoagrowing regions.
- → Promote production practices that maintain and increase biodiversity and crop diversification in cocoa communities.





Representing the Condy, Chacalate & Gum Industries since 1884

frieslandfoods

romerotrading

the Art of the Chocolatier











































CocoaPhil









TOUTON























Manufacturing Confectioner





























New Initiative: (Pending) Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

- → West Africa 5 countries
- → \$40+ million over 5 years (\$22M Gates, \$20M from industry –cash/in-kind)
- → 200,000 farmers to benefit/double income
- → African governments endorsement
- → Partners: WCF is lead STCP (Africa), ACDI/VOCA (US), Technoserve (US), Socodevi (Canada), GTZ (German) 0





New Initiatives: Borlaug Fellowship Program

- → United State Department of Agriculture (\$200,000 grant)
- → World Cocoa Foundation travel costs
- → Fellows 7 Africa, 6 Central America, 2 the Philippines and 2 Indonesia.
- → Topic Areas
 - → Fingerprinting of Clones
 - → Bio-control for Pest/Diseases
 - → Drought resistant clones





New Initiatives: Challenge Grants Program

- → Funders: US Agency for International Development, GTZ, Mars, MC Publishing
- → 74 Applications received from cocoa producing country organizations
- → 7 awards (\$20,000 each)
- → Areas of focus
 - → Farm Level and Safety
 - → Education and Community Development





Farm-level innovations Grants:

→ Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, to pheromone traps for mirid insect control

→ Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, sensitizing farmers about the need to use organic fertilizers and composting





Farm-level innovations Grants:

→ Nong Lam University, Vietnam, for research into simpler, more affordable drip irrigation

→ Duc Hiep Cocoa Club, Vietnam, for the development of innovative, indirect heat cocoa bean drying





Education innovation Grants:

→ University of Cape Coast, Ghana, School of Agriculture, encouraging farmer adoption of artificial cocoa pollination

→ Conservacion y Desarrollo (CyD), Ecuador, to implement an innovative "education tour" approach to promoting knowledge sharing among farmer associations





Education innovation Grants:

→ CATIE, Costa Rica, development of a teaching module on the reproductive biology of cocoa

→ Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, to benefit women and women's groups economically by disseminating knowledge about quality potash and soap production from cocoa pod husks.





New Initiative: Sustainable Cocoa Practices

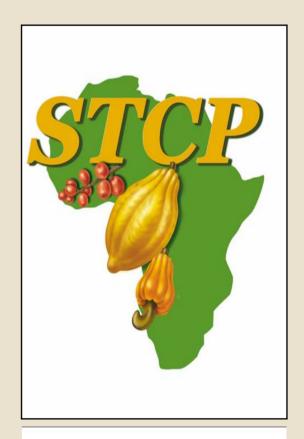
- → Model to measure impact across programs on economic, social and environmental practices
- → Retail interests and support
- → University of Arkansas and German researcher assisting





On-going programs: West Africa

- Public-private partnership: WCF, company members, USAID, host governments
- National Networks
 - Cote d'Ivoire
 - Ghana
 - Nigeria
 - Cameroon
 - Liberia
- Program Components
 - ■Farmer Field Schools
 - Farmer Organizational Support
 - Marketing
 - Policy and Research



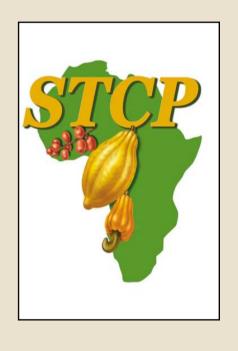






On-going Programs: West Africa Results/Targets

- >Income improvements 22-55%
- > Better labor practices
- > Reduced pesticide use
- >Scale up successful activities
- >Test new interventions
- > Farm diversification
- > Reach over 150,0000 farmers







What is the oldest university?





- → More than 2700 years back TakshaShila university existed in India where over 10,500 students from all over the world came for higher studies.
- → During its time this university was the IIT and MIT of the world, where students came to study over 64 areas.
- → Students were admitted to this university at the age of 16 after they had completed their basic education in their local institutions.





So how did we get this system?

- → Frederick the Great was one of the first to support opening schools and creating teacher training.
- → In 1635, the first Latin grammar school was opened in Boston.
- → Shortly after, Massachusetts required children to learn how to read.
- → Towns with more than fifty families had to have schools.
- → What about the industrial revolution and train schedules?

How long before we change?





How many cells in the adult human brain?





An adult human brain has more than 100 billion neurons.*

The Scientific American Book of the Brain. New York: Scientific American, 1999

*Not counting Glial cells





What about babies' brains?

Double

What does that mean?





What did Jerome Kagan* say in *The Nature of the Child*?

*Daniel and Amy Starch Professor of Psychology at Harvard University





Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis *

- → Postulates that a particular language's nature influences the habitual thought of its speakers:
- → that different language patterns yield different patterns of thought.
- → Hopis don't use tenses
- → Navahos don't use verbs



*an underlying axiom of linguist and anthropologist Edward Sapir and his colleague and student Benjamin Whorf.



So what makes us so sure our way is the right way?

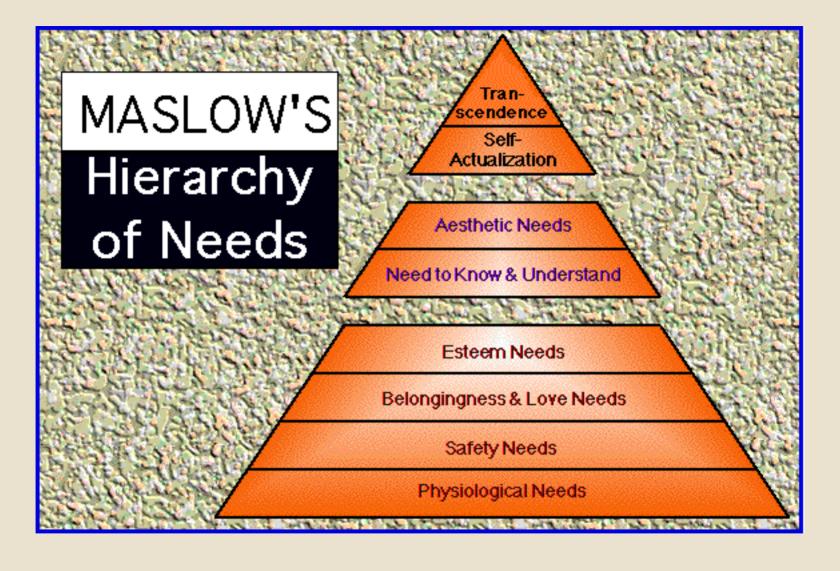




When your only tool is a hammer what does every job look like?









Bottom four are prerequisites for advancement.



How well is our current system addressing the lower four?

- The current system delivers enabling knowledge of primary education to some and not well.
- It tracks for secondary and tertiary education in a commercially active economy where jobs are available and diverse
- It misses the lower four levels of Maslow's hierarchy
- Our farmer communities need relevant livelihoods education immediately – not after school
- They need productivity skills, civic, health and social knowledge





So are we really doing what will work best in cocoa growing communities?

How much does it cost to learn something?





- → Isn't there a better way to deliver quality education to rural communities?
- → Something that is
 - -Relevant
 - -Sustainable
 - -Scaleable





So what could we with a clean slate?





Opportunities?

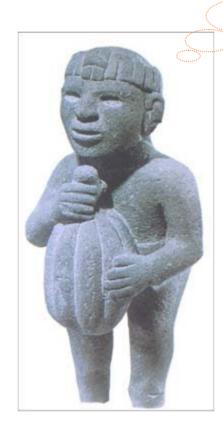
- > Strengthen Extension service capacity
- Adapt the U. S. Community College model to address local needs
- Strengthen Teacher Training to include productive knowledge development (entrepreneurship, agricultural, management, etc.)
- What could we do that would be dramatically better?







Credit to franchised private schools???





Thank You!

www.worldcocoafoundation.org

Charlie.Feezel@worldcocoa.org

